

REMARKS

Applicants graciously acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 31. Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 13, 15-17, 24, 26-27 and 29 have been amended. Claim 33 has been newly added. Claim 31 has been canceled. Claims 1, 4-7, 9-11, 13-27, 29, and 32-33 remain pending in this application.

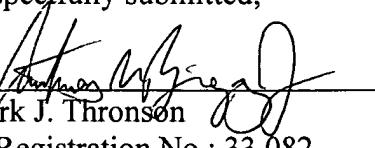
Claims 4-7, 9-11, and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to address the concerns raised by the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4-7, 9-11, 13-27, 29, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over various references. The claims have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 31 that have been identified as allowable subject matter by the Office Action. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, at ¶'s 0068-0070 of the present application. Claim 1 has further been amended to remove limitations which are not relied upon for patentability of the claim. Claim 33 is newly added, reciting one such removed limitation and depending from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

In view of the above Amendments, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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